

*Company 91***Offer of Gifts by Cold Drink Manufacturing Companies**

34. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE**: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cold drink manufacturing companies have announced various gifts numbering over thousands including a Maruti Car;

(b) whether such offers are in violation of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act; and

(c) if, so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The Director General (Investigation and Registration) has received some complaints against the scheme of gifts launched by a cold drink manufacturing company. The Director General (Investigation & Registration) has found the scheme to be prima-facie in violation of the MRTP Act, 1969 and is taking steps to file an application before the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission, which is a quasi-Judicial body and is empowered to take necessary action under the provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969. *91-93*

*Delhi***DTC BUSES**

35. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE**: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses running in Delhi for transporting commuters;

(b) the number of private buses under the DTC and the number of those on contract;

(c) the number of buses under (a) and (b) above which are run as special/Limited stop services charging Rs. 2/-;

(d) whether a large number of buses are being converted into Limited stop/special service buses charging Rs. 2/-;

(e) if so, the number of buses so converted during the last six months; and

(f) the steps being taken to increase the number of passenger buses to meet the ever increasing needs of the travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As on 5-7-1991, DTC was having a fleet of 4403 buses for transporting commuters in Delhi.

(b) As on 5-7-1991, there were 630 private buses operating under DTC. Delhi Administration have informed that 6657 number of buses were on contract as on 8-7-1991.

(c) 190 DTC buses and 23 private buses under DTC are run as Special/Limited Stop Services.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. During the last six months, only 15 ordinary trips were converted into Limited Stop services.

(f) There is a provision of Rs. 53 crores for the year 1991-92 for acquisition of 865 buses on 'Replacement account' and the development of related infrastructure. In addition, 54 P.O. buses were also inducted during the current financial year to meet the ever increasing needs of travelling public.

The other steps being taken by DTC to provide adequate and efficient bus services to the public include augmentation of services after carrying out surveys, route rationalisation, deployment of Assistant Engineers to ensure better services, supervision of

out-shedding position by Depot Manager during morning and evening hours, effective monitoring to correct imbalance and ensuring provision of spares to remove shortage, if any.

A proposal for introduction of Luxury buses in Delhi is being implemented by Delhi Administration on experimental basis.

Rice + 93
Construction of Bridge on River Muniyeru in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

36. **SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE**: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the spans of the bridge on river Muniyeru at Kusara in Krishna District Andhra Pradesh collapsed some years back causing serious inconvenience and additional expenditure for truck operators on National Highway No. 9;

(b) the latest estimated cost of the new bridge being constructed by the U.P. Bridge Construction Corporation; and

(c) the date by which construction of the bridge is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 499.14 lakhs.

(c) Bridge including its approaches is likely to be completed by August, 1992.

93-94
Foreign Exchange Reserves

37. **SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE**: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position regarding the foreign exchange reserves; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):

(a) Foreign Exchange Reserves (excluding gold and SDR) as on 5th July, 1991 were Rs. 2651 crores.

(b) To improve the reserves level position the Government proposes to:

(i) Continue, in the short run, the import compression measures, accelerate the utilisation of already committed external aid and explore additional financing facilities including the use of IMF facilities.

(ii) In the medium term, it is proposed to reduce the trade gap through more vigorous export promotion measures, augmentation of net invisible receipts through increased receipts from services including tourism receipts, and increased capital flows consistent with financial prudence and their productive use. Measures to attract foreign direct investment as well as encouragement for larger capital inflows from non-resident Indians are also proposed to be taken consistent with our overall economic policies.

94
Withdrawal of Crop Loans to Farmers

38. **SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE**: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued any directions to the nationalised banks not to give crop loans to the farmers upto September, 1991;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) its likely effect on agricultural production in the current kharif season; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve